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AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 20, as follows:

Accordingly, it is desirable to selectively release resources affected by a partial failure in a node, while allowing unaffected node ~~element~~ elements, connections, and resources to remain intact and functioning. There are different approaches to achieving these ends. Preferably, those approaches should be easily implemented in existing systems, e.g., using messages already-defined by or consistent with UTRAN standard signaling protocols.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 7 line 16, as follows:

In another example implementation of the present invention, network addresses, e.g., IP addresses, are assigned to devices in the node. When a subscriber unit connection is established, an address for each device associated with the subscriber unit connection is sent to other nodes. If a failure is detected in one of the devices, a message including the network address of the failed device is sent to one or more other nodes. For nodes containing plural processor boards coupled by a switch, where each processor board includes plural processors, such a message may identify the addresses of the plural ~~processor~~ processors on a failed board. As a result, the node(s) receiving the message release subscriber unit connections associated with that failed processor board.